Dear Howard, 8/5/72

Today's mail included your mailing of your 8/3 to Dick and 7/29 to the Post. I'll go over the clips when I can. Thanks. They all look interesting. The Stoner bit is the foolish taking of bait he has been using for 9 months that I know of and the interesting part of it has been lost entirely. I have taken some step to try and interest others in doing what I can't take time for. In addition to all the other too much I now have to waste even more time to get the Ray habeas corpus petition revised. It was terribly inadequate. I've prepared an analysis longer than its almost 40 pages. Jim is to come here Mon.,Tue and Wed. to go over it. By the way, if nothing else impelled or required Cyril's postponement the coming of Ray's Tennessee lawyer on the 10th may have. He'd probably come up the night before, the scheduled BIG night.

Your letter to the Post is good. I have a relevant tape if you'd like it. The second side includes an appearance by Felix Greene on the Today show. The first includes the longest comment by Jane Fonda of which I know on what she saw. You have not responded to my earlier inquiries about earlier tapes of this character.

I'm forced to respond to you letter to Dick as I read it. He didn't send me his 7/28 to Wecht. Sorry he didn't. I have no interest in using such things but I have every interest in as complete a foundation as possible for anything that may became necessary when there is no time for background searching.

First page, no argument. P. 2, first graph: do you realize that your own thinking on some of these matters actually now goes farthur than mine, and on a snap judgement I agree with you?

Next graph:Glad this relieves me of the need to regard his consultation with Lifton confidential. I have no plans for using it now, but it is a relief. Here you fall short of the incredible reality. He was in touch with Smith and the CTIS long before you know on this. Smith took months off to begin a study for him and Smith is my source, as of the time he was doing it and learning nothing, including not understandig what had been published. It was months <u>after</u> this that he wasted a day and at least contributed to my thumb-chopping with that intellectual drek about explosive bullets. His own understanding of the clear and cr dible evidence as of then, in his prepresentation, permited no resolution of two questions I asked him: was there need or useful pripose to be served by the use of such bullets and if he could conceive of any, did it offset the liability, as less steady trajectory; and does the established fact of the medical evidence even permit consideration of the use of explosive bullets, even considering that only two hit the President and any kind of consideration of Connally's wounds. The answers are in all cases obvious except to the irrational. I have every reason to believe this Cyril-CTIS relationship preceeded his direct contact with even Sylvia on this and that when she learned of it she demanded he isolate from them. As you can see he hasn't but has done the opposite, so so much also forSylvia's influence on him.

Final graph, carried over to top 3: your understandable personal resentments lead you to a personalization that while I don't think it will deceive Dick, who will read in what you emitted, I call to your attention. You refer to the minority of two who do not idolize Cyril. This is not inaccurate. It is the wrong focus. It is the minority of two who are in any position to counsel with him in any real way, being the only ones who have ever done any work in the area of his alleged interest. I think that for Dick's understanding you should not hated that to plan so completely an inadequate an examination Cyril did do little preparation he didn't even known the number of pieces of material he'd be looking at and this I had sent him. To go along with his failure to return your call, note two things: this coincides exactly with my experience with him when he had gotten from me all he could expect to without arousing my suspicions; and that his secretary does return calls for him, as Lil, the enclosed memo showing, overheard yesterday, entirely by accident/

Your last graph of substance: Now that I've been able to consider this further and warned the sycophantic unthinking, I consider it possible that Cyril will have no press conference. I think it probable his intent is larceny and that he will pull a second Lattimer, first release what he will in an article over his signature. This is the only way he can avoid the danger of a press conference, the only thing that makes sense out of looking at "other things", and is consistent with everything he has done and not done. I was pretty straightforward about this with Bud yesterday.

Best,